The Caledonian Mercury.

Edinburgh, Thursday, December 8, 1726.

From the Evening Post, Dec. 1.

Hague, Dec. 3. N. S.

Petition of the Council of State for a further Augmentation of the Forces with 10304 Men.

High and Mighty Lords,

THE Council of State having perceived at a Distance that Storm gathering which now threatens nearer, did on several Occasions, as well by the last general Petition, represent to your H. Mightinesses, the unguarded Condition of the Republick, and the Necessity of putting it without Delay into a better Posture of Defence, by augmenting your Troops, by strengthning and furnishing your Frontiers in due Time, by increasing your naval Force, and by providing whatever else may be requisite for your Security.

What Effect these Representations had, the Council will not now observe; but seeing the Causes of Uneasiness and Sollicitude multiplying, and on the other Hand, the Hopes of an Accommodation upon the Grievances of the State vanishing quite away, they did by their Petition the 11th of July last, with your High Mightinesses Approbation, propose to the united Provinces, and desire, the augmenting the Forces with 9474 Men by way of Recruits, without promising more from such a Reinforcement, than that the State would thereby be put into a Posture to be the less apprehensive of unforseen Accidents and Surprizes, and not liable to fall into the utmost Distress, as now, upon the least Motion abroad or at home; adding thereto by the Supplemental Petition of the 21st of last Month, that in the present State of Things the said Augmentation of the Forces with 9474 Men, "ought rather to be looked upon as a Token, that "the Provinces began to apprehend the Danger "which threatned them, than as a sufficient Means, "by God's gracious Protection and with the Assi"stance of their Allies, to ward it off.

And in Fact, High and Mighty Lords, can we promise ourselves any Thing further, from an Augmentation that will but just make up the Forces 40,000 effective Men, from which 12,000 must be deducted for garrisoning the Places of the Barrier? Places which are indeed extremely beneficial for the Security of the State in the present Juncture, but which yet do but cover it indirectly.

Wherefore, and because Things have not had a more favourable Aspect during the Deliberations on the Augmentation, it had hardly passed into a Resolution but the Council of State thought it their Duty immediately to propose, not only the entring into Concert or close Councils with the Allies of the State, which Concert must in the Nature of the Case have for its chief View and Aim, not only the common Safety, and in particular that of this State, as being the weakest, and by its Situation the most in Danger, but likewise (for that End) the increasing the Troops of this Republick by a further Augmentation to 50,000 effective Men, and the putting the Frontiers into as good a State of Defence as the Time will permit.

The Council has been the more urgent herein, because your H. Might. Commissorial Resolution of the 12th Inst. appointing a Conference with this Council, for considering what was proper to be done, and what Measures might be fit to be taken for Security of the State, above the Reinforcement 9477 Men, confirmed the Council in their Opinion, that the Security of the State equally required the taking Measures with Allies, who are not only under Engagements, but have both Means and Inclination to assist this State, and the putting our selves into as good a Posture of Defence as its present enfeebled Power will permit, excited and animated by threatning Danger, and by the dismal Apprehensions of what must ensue from missing th' great Ends propos'd by it's Accession to the Hanover Treaty.

And such was the Effect of the Conference, that your H. Might. did among other Things, require the Council to form a Petition for this Augmentation, and for procuring the requisite Funds for the Fortifications and Magazines on the Frontiers.

This further Augmentation should consist, according to the Project which your H. M. have been pleased to approve, of 10304 Men, to make up the Horse 4612, and the Dragoons 2400, all mounted and fit to serve on Horseback or a-foot, and the

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Infantry 46914, in all 53929, but indeed hardly 50,000, if we reckon only effective Men, which is the preſent Conſideration; for from the 53926, a Deduction muſt be made for the Deficiency in the Troops of the Repartition of ſome Provinces, likewiſe the Men for the Colony of Surinam, and all that do not carry Arms tho' on the Regimental Eſtabliſhments; who are all computed in the ſaid Number of 53926 Men.

As to the particular Specification of the 10304 Men, at a Time when ſo much good Management is requiſite, the frugal Way of ſerving the Country would incline the Council to propoſe, That this Augmentation might all be as the former, by Recruits, as being the leaſt expenſive Method; but they fear that ſo great a Number of Recruits cannot be had, and think it too great a Venture to leave a Matter of ſuch Importance to an Uncertainty; and ſhould it happen to ſucceed, "then by ſuch "numerous Recruits, the old Troops, among "which are already not a few Officers and Soldi-"ers who never ſaw an Enemy, would be too "much transformed into new.

Therefore the Council, conſidering the bad State of the Finances, jude it beſt to proceed in a middle Way, that is, to comprize in the Augmentation 8 Regiments of Foot, making 4800 Men, to be raiſed or taken into Service as ſhall be moſt practicable; and then the Council reckon the reſt may be levied by Recruiting, ſince among them are propoſed 480 Scots, and 3600 Swiſs, who come from Countries where the Dutch Troops do not recruit.

The ſaid Recruits are to conſiſt of 512 Horſe, viz. 22 a Troop for the 6 Troop of Guards, and 5 a Troop for the 76 ordinary Troops; 194 Dragoons, viz. 5 a Troop for the Regiment of Prince William Heſſe, and 6 a Troop for the 3 other Regiments: And 4798 Foot, viz. 39 a Company for the 12 Companies of Guards, 5 a Company for the 566 ordinary Companies, the Scots therein included, and 50 a Company for the 30 Companies of Swiſs and Griſons. And the 8 Regiments of Foot, with which the Recruits are to make up the Augmentation of 10304 Men, are to conſiſt each of 10 Companies of 60 Men; conſequently each will make a Battallion of 600 Men.

Beſides this, the 4 Regiments of diſmounted Dragoons, and which are to conſiſt for the future of 600 Men each, muſt be provided with Horſes, that they may do Service on Foot and on Horſeback.

The Charge of this Augmentation and Remounting, (an Article which the Council wiſh they could paſs over in Silence) will be 924620 Gulders, viz. the Recruit-money for 512 Horſe at 90 Rixdollars, 115200 Gulders; for 194 mounted Dragoons at 65 Rizdollars, 32495 Gulders; for 3298 Foot at 25 Rixdollars, 206125 Gulders; and for 1500 Swiſs and Griſons at 20 Rixdollars, 75000 Gulders; in all, 428820. The Levy-Money for 8 Regiments of 10 Companies of 60 Men each, for each 4240 Men, 265000 Gulders. And laſtly, the Remounting the Dragoons at 40 Rixdollars the Horſe, after deducting the above 194 Dragoons, and 34 Clerks of the Muſters out of the Number of 2536 Horſe, the Sum required for the ſaid 4 Regiments is 230800 Gulders.

But the Council, in ſtead of paſſing over this Article, as they could wiſh, are on the contrary obliged to inſiſt; and after the Experience of ſlow Conſents, followed by yet ſlower and very often deficient Supplies, earneſtly to requeſt that the United Provinces, weighing the preſſing Neceſſity, the Difficulty of raiſing Men, which is now greater than ever, and the Shortneſs of the Time, will not ſatisfy themſelves with conſenting to the Augmentation ſpeedily, but will as ſpeedily furniſh their Contingents to the above requir'd Sum of 924620 Gulders, how burdenſome ſoever the Collecting may be, that the Work may be ſet about, the ſooner the better, which 'twere to be wiſhed had been done long ago, that there might have been the leſs Reaſon to fear that the Officers will do their Buſineſs but by Halves: And indeed the Council would not have failed, ſome Months ago to have propoſed this Augmentation, or to have included it in their Petition the 11th July, had they not conceived, that an Augmentation of 19 or 20000 Men, petitioned for at once, could not be ſo ſoon executed as one Half of that Number; and had they not entertained ſome Hopes that Affairs, tho' appearing gloomy and confuſed, would perhaps ſoon be accommodate, and above all, had they then foreſeen, that Four whole Months would be ſpun out, before the Conſent to that Petition would be brought in.

High and Mighty Lords, 'tis in vain to regret the Time paſt, but the Council hope that the Conſideration of what has thereby in ſeveral Reſpects been loſt, will ſerve for a Motive and Incitement to the Provinces to redouble their Zeal, and apply with the greater Diligence to the making the beſt Uſe of the Time, which God in his long Sufferance ſeems yet to afford them, for providing what is neceſſary for their Defence, their Safety, and (why

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should we not add?) their Peace: instead of contenting themselves with fruitless Deliberations, and perhaps flattering themselves with vain, or at best uncertain Hopes, or being loth to struggle with Difficulties, which are indeed great in themselves, but not to be put in Comparison with the Dangers which hang over the Head of the State.

For (and thus the Council will close this Petition) it becomes more and more apparent, that the State must with the Help of its Friends secure itself against the vastly extended Designs of Powers who have put all Europe into Motion, under pretence of precautioning themselves against a Treaty that is merely defensive, and who had they nothing worse in View, have at last openly attempted to subvert a Treaty which is the Foundation of the Freedom of this State, and not only in the Beginning of the present Disputes, undermined one of the principal Branches of its Commerce, which is the Basis of its Welfare, nay of its Existence, but its Commerce in general, as is but too evident from the Treaties relating to Commerce, which have been concluded since the granting of the known Patent for establishing a Company, and from Obstructions which the trading Subjects of the State meet with from several Quarters.

So that it seems, Men must be blind, or of Opinion that it is better for the State to stand the Risk either of being invaded, or if it be imagined no Invasion is to be feared, if the States will give up the Ends proposed by the Treaty of Hanover and by their Accession to it, of losing Time after Time and by Degrees the invaluable Pledges and Securities of their Freedom of Commerce; or else they must deem it necessary in the present Juncture of Affairs to exert the utmost Endeavours to defend and maintain the same at all Hazard and Expence of Blood and Treasure, and consequently to consent to this and other Petitions tending to that End, with such Readiness, and furnish the Contingents with such Expedition, that it may be thereby apparent to those who mean well and to those who mean ill to this State, that it is by no means disposed, how low soever its Finances may be, to let itself be deprived without Resistance, and as the common Saying is, with folded Arms, of its dearly-acquired Rights and Privileges, but is determined to the contrary; hoping their Resolution, supported by powerful Allies, will be the Means, under God, to prevent their Ruin, and perhaps to bring Things still to an Accommodation.

Petersburg, Nov. 13. This Court has promised extraordinary Pay to all those who will engage to serve two Years by Sea and Land. Fresh Orders are given to dispatch with all possible Speed the Building and Repairing of the Men of War, that our Fleet may put to Sea early in the Spring.

Hamburg, Dec. 5. We hear from Petersburg, That the Czarina had given Prince Dolhorucki full Instructions, to strengthen the late concluded Treaty between the Czarina and Sweden.

We hear that Count Seckendorf, the Emperor's Envoy to the Court of Berlin, goes thither Tomorrow in order to confirm all what has passed 'twixt the two Courts.

London, Dec. 1. The Woman that has been delivered of 17 Rabbits at Goldalmin is come to Town by order of his Majesty, and lodged at the Bagnio in Long Acre, where there is a great Resort to see her. The Lord Garles was on Monday last, being the last Day of the Term, discharged from his Recognizance.

The Corpse of the Dutchess of ---- has been privately deposited, till Orders come from England concerning the Interrement and Mourning.

We hear that the King of Spain is to have an Army of 180,000 Men next Spring.

Wye's Letter verbatim, London, Decem. 3.

Since our last arrived a French and Holland Mail.

'TIS advised from Venice, That on the 13th past the French Ambassador had a Conference with several of the Senators on the Subject of their Accession to the Treaty of Hanover; and there were good Grounds to hope, that his Excellency would meet with the desired Success, notwithstanding all the Obstructions made by the Emperor; whose Endeavours for inducing the King of Sardinia to enter into the Vienna Treaty, will prove as ineffectual as his Project for drawing off France from the Hanover Treaty. The vast Preparations making by the French in Alsace, must surely convince the Emperor that the Allies of Hanover are unanimous for pushing on a War, with such Vigour as will soon oblige their Enemies to trukle to Terms of Accommodation, tho' they are now averse.

Letters from Paris of the 1st Inst. say, that 100 Pieces of Cannon lately cast, are sent to Strasburg.

Advices from Portsmouth relate, that Sir George Walters was coming thither to take upon him the Command of the 6 Men of War appointed for the

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W. Indies, two of which, the Portland and Tyger, sailed for Spithead last Thursday; and all the Seamen belonging to any other Ships there, are invited to enter on board these, with the Promise of being paid the Wages due them. And 'tis said several more Men of War will be put in Commission.

The villainous Proceedings of Rogers, the Brocker, formerly mentioned, appear every Day more and more, to the entire Ruin of several Widows, Orphans and others, whose Properties in Stocks he has been entrusted with, and which he had fraudulently converted to his own Use, by selling out their Stocks, and in order to conceal the Cheat he would send into the Country the Dividends regularly; so that they did not suspect him, till one of these unfortunate Persons coming to the South Sea House to search the Books, found to her great Surprize, that of 6000 L. Stock, not one Farthing remained. Another Gentlewoman, who gave the said Roger Money to buy her a 1000 L. S. S. Annuity, discovered that he had bought only a 100 L. and to conceal his Cheat for the present, altered the Receipt which was only for a 100 L. to a 1000 L. The whole Amount of the Frauds appeared to be no less than 57,000 L. 'tis said he has defrauded Captain Pitt to a very great Degree. A Statute of Bankruptcy is taken out against him, and he absconds, but a Hue and Cry is to all the Seaport Towns to stop him, if he attempts to go beyond Sea. Mean Time 'tis said he had wrote to the Commissioners that he would pay down 10,000 L. and give Security for as much more in case the Statute be withdrawn.

By the Accounts Yesterday from the West we are informed, that near 6000 of the Riotous Weavers, came last Monday to Froome, where they delivered a Paper containing their Demands upon the Clothiers. The next Day they went to divers other Places, and sent a Letter signed WEAVER, to a Clothier of the Devizes, threatning to pay him a Visit.

'Tis advised from Holland that Count Welling is accused of making Offers to the King of Prussia, to engage him to espouse the D. of Holstein's Interest.

The Grandees and Estates of Spain have promised to assist their King, to fulfill his Engagements with the Emperor. Who has ordered all his Officers to their Posts, and the Garrison of Ostend to be reinforced.

The S. S. Company have brought an Action against some Persons on account of their Loan in the 1720.

From the Weekly Journal, Dec. 3.

By private Letters from Spain we learn, that a certain Minister is preparing to leave that Court.

ADVERTISEMENTS.

¶¶¶ Several Noblemen and Gentlemen having resolved to wear no other LINEN for their Person and domestick Use than what is manufactured in this Kingdom, hereby intimate to all Merchants and others, who have any Quantity of the said Cloth, That they Advertise the same, with their Names and Places of Residence, in the News Papers, so as the saids Resolutioners may be certiorate where to be provided with the Manufacture aforesaid.

§¶§ The DIRECTORS of the BANK of SCOTLAND having certain Knowledge, that some wicked and malicious Person or Persons have been and are endeavouring to Counterfeit the Company's Twenty-shilling Notes, and to impose them upon innocent and honest Persons: These are therefore to desire all Persons to whom any Twenty shilling Notes shall be presented, to look if the Words *BANK OF SCOTLAND* be in the Paper in it's proper Place, *above* the Treasurer's Subscription; but in case they observe the said Words be stampt on the *Back side* of the Note, and not to have been done originally with the Paper itself, they are not to receive the same, but to take special Notice and Knowledge of the Person who offers such Note, and to discover the same to the Treasurer of the Bank. And the DIRECTORS hereby faithfully promise to give a Reward of *One Hundred Pound Sterling* to any who shall discover and cause apprehend any Person guilty of or accessory to the said Forgery, so as he may be brought to condign Punishment, and the Discoverer's Name shall be concealed. This by Order of the COURT OF DIRECTORS. Signed by me DAVID SPENCE Secretary.

¶ That on the 22d Day of December Inst. betwixt the Hours of two and four in the Afternoon, in the House of Mrs. Don Vintner in Edinburgh, there is to be sold, by publick voluntary Roup, the Lands of Laghall, Netherton, Boigs, Priesthands, Redbrae, Woodhead and Mill Armannoch and Marchromne, with a Salmond Fishing on the Water of Nith, paying 107 L. 6 Sh. 8 d. Steel of Yearly free Rent, beside Kains and Casualities, holden of the Crown Taxtward, lying within a Mile or thereby of the Burgh of Dumfries, the greatest Part thereof betwixt the Waters of Nith and Cirrgin, in the Parish of Troquire and Stewartry of Kircudbright. The Progress of the Writs with the Rental and Conditions of Sale, to be seen in the Hands of Thomas Goldie Writer to the Signet at his Writing Chamber in Edinburgh.

¶¶¶ There is to be exposed to voluntar Roup and Sale, on Thursday the 15th of December 1726, in the House of Patrick Herdman Vintner, betwixt the Hours of 3 & 4 after Noon, the Town and Lands of CRAIGLOCKHART, Tower, Fortalice, Manor-place, Houses, Biggings, Yards and Pertinents thereto belonging; being a good fertile Soil, pleasantly situate, having large Conveniency for Pasturage on the Hills belonging thereto; with the Houses and Stone-Quarrey pertaining to the same in Sclateford. There is a large handsome House two Storey high, lately built on the said Lands, possessed by the Tenant, besides several other Conveniencies; such as a Brewary possessed by a Sub-tenant, a convenient Seat in the Church, and the like; lying about two Miles West from Edinburgh, in the Sheriffdom thereof, Parish of Hails, alias Colington. The Lands hold Blanche of the Crown. The Rental, Conditions of Roup, and Rights, are to be seen in the Hands of *Thomas Johnston* Writer in Edinburgh, in Mr. Alison of Birkhill's Writing chamber in Carrubber's Close, on the North side of the Street, above the Bishop's Land.